

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

Belmont Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2016

2016 MAY -5 AM 9:40

Present: Anthony Ferrante, Lynn Findlay, June Howell, Heidi Barberio, Jay Marcotte, Mary Bradley, David Kane, Anne Helgen, Jensen Lozano, Ann Beré, Sami Baghdady and Belmont resident, Mary Ann Scali

Not present: Matt Sullivan, Kathryn Jones

Resident Mary Ann Scali came to hear/talk about the tennis courts

1. PQ update

- Bids are in. 6 in total (1 – out of the park price, 2 good estimates, 3 real aggressive; 2 @ \$25 - \$30K lower and 1 \$90k lower) Meeting w/lowest bidder on Thursday.
- Lowest bidder is very reputable company.
- Hoping to finalize quickly, slated to complete 30 – 60 days. (end of May hopefully depending on weather)
- Court can be painted 3 ways with lines so courts can be used for more, ie pickle ball, U/10, color pattern will be discussed.
- Ground breaking should be before next meeting.
- Town field will be the tryout for pickle ball.

2. Strategic Plan

- Jay will call Jamie at 110% to follow-up. Also trying to go through the focus group answers.
- 110% will be coming April 6th for phase II staff meeting. There will be a meeting with the Town Administrator and the Superintendent of Schools following that session where the staff will discuss vision and goals
- At the end of the process there will be a Public Meeting with Board of Selectmen
- At the end there will be a plan. Recreation is a “Department without an identity”.
- Lots of positive feedback for June and Heidi for programs, etc. (Kudos to both of them.)
- The plan will be long term and will be worked on slowly.

3. Financial Report

- Gathering all financials to put into a software program. This will be a good tool going forward. Will help with understanding of costs.
- Will help with strengths and weaknesses.

4. Winn Brook

- Vote needed from Recreation Commission regarding the Winn Brook courts.
- Cost are about \$325,000
- All courts in town are in rough shape

- Discussion on how many courts in town, how many do we need, how to we use them program wise, etc.
- Going forward there needs to be a plan for maintaining the courts
- Motion to vote on the tennis court reconstruction
- Vote - 5 said yes, 2 said no.
- Perfect opportunity to make new rules on field permits, etc. in town

5. Generation Tennis

- Wants to put up a sign at Chenery where their program is run.
- Was said it should go on the website and the program should go through Recreation Department.
- Motion to vote on whether sign can be posted on fence.
Unanimous vote – NO
- June will let them know.
- Will look at the fee charging for the fall

6. Spring/Summer Memberships

- 40 Non-residents memberships sold by the end of the first day
- 8 resident (family) memberships sold
- Woman came in with tax and water bill for a Beech Street address. She had no id, lives in Arlington, owns house on Beech Street and wanted a resident membership. It was given to her. We had no policy covering this.
- Motion made “Residents must live in Belmont and be on the census to get a “resident” membership, this includes business owners in the town.
Motion approved.

7. Revenue

- Still ahead at this point

8. Minutes from February 2, 2016

- Approved

Next meeting April 12th, 7 pm. On the agenda will be 110%, finance and policy talk

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

Processed By
Town of Belmont
Town Treasurer
Town Collector

2016 MAY -5 AM 9:40

15 DEC -4 PM 3:03

Community Preservation Committee
Town of Belmont

CPA Funding – Final Application

Ten copies of the completed Final Application must be submitted to the following address by no later than 4pm on December 4, 2016:

Community Preservation Committee
c/o Floyd S. Carman, Treasurer
Town of Belmont
PO Box 56
Belmont, MA 02478

Project Title Winn Brook Tennis Courts

Applicant/Contact Person Jay Marcotte, Public Works Director

Organization Board of Selectmen

Mailing Address 455 Concord Avenue Belmont, MA 02478

Telephone 617-993-2610 E-mail dkale@belmont-ma.gov

Signature _____ Date _____

CPA Category (*check all that apply*):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open Space | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation |

Amount Requested \$325,000

Total Project Cost \$325,000

CPC USE ONLY:
Application#_OSR-5
Received_12/04/15
Control #_FY16-FA7

Project Description

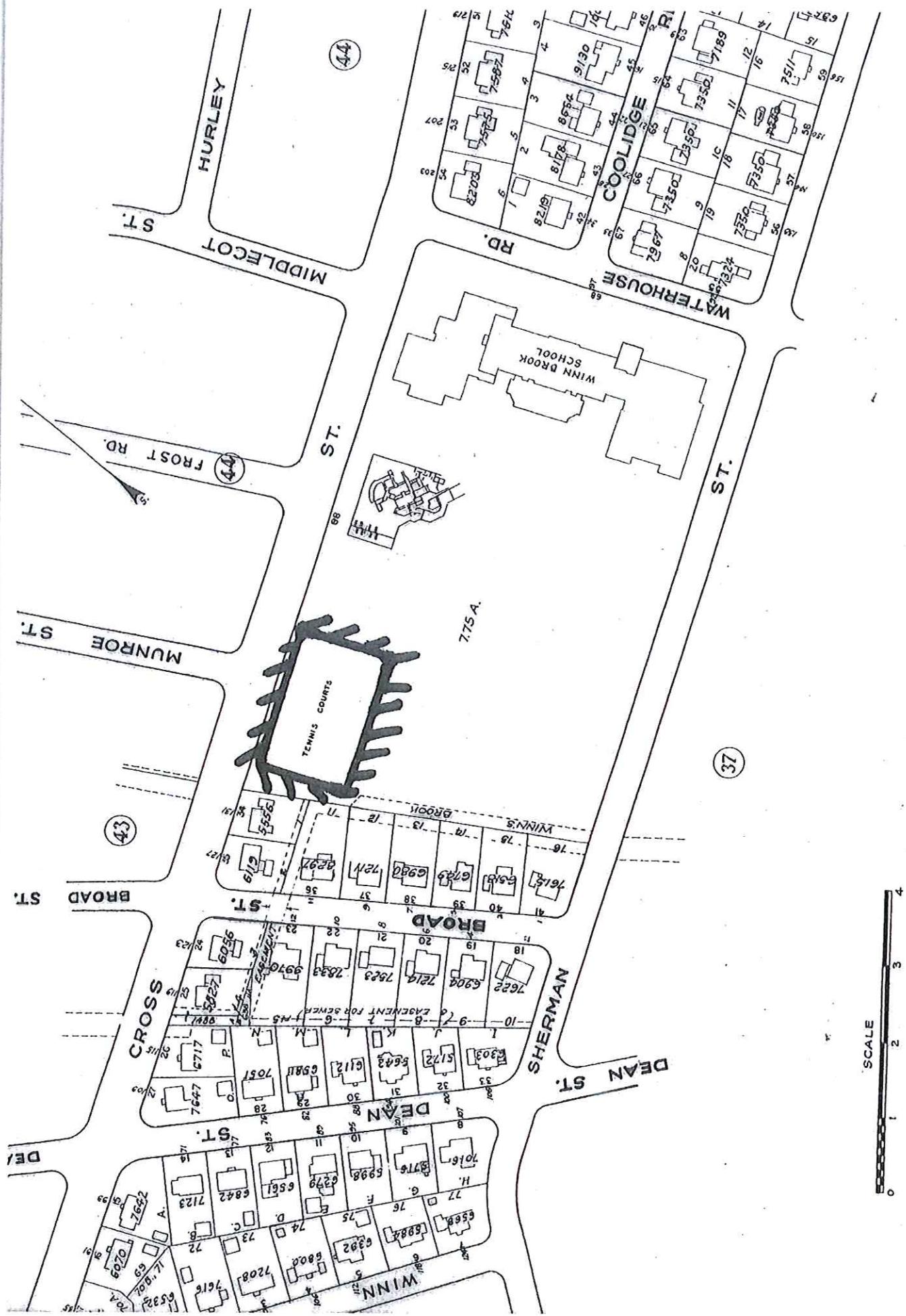
1. **Goals** – The goal of the proposed project is to completely remove and replace the four (4) tennis courts at the Winn Brook Playground.
2. **Community Need** – This important Town asset is needed as an integral part of the resident's opportunity to have athletic facilities available to them for both pleasure and competitive enjoyment with the associated health benefits. The availability of tennis courts also allows every new generation to have the opportunity to acquire skill that they can enjoy for a lifetime. This request addresses Town needs as identified in the CPA Guidelines. In addition, addresses the following needs as detailed in the Comprehensive Plan; quality of life, maintaining recreational facilities, invest in routine asset management, meeting the needs of children, youth and seniors, maintaining open space and reflects community priorities.
3. **Community Support** - Through the staff evaluation of the tennis courts in 2010 and the approved Capital Budget Committee (CBC) request for the spring 2011 Town Meeting, it was clear that there is significant town-wide support for maintaining all of the existing tennis courts. The initial CBC request was to repair the Winn Brook and Pequossette tennis courts permanently remove the Grove Street Playground tennis courts. At the 2011 Town Meeting, tennis advocates offered an amendment that succeeded in providing the CBC funds for the short-term, temporarily repairs to maintain the tennis courts at all three (3) locations. A copy of the Town Meeting discussion is attached to demonstrate the town-wide support for these recreational assets.
4. **Project Documentation** – There are no documents (other than the photos provided with the Preliminary Application) for this project.
5. **Timeline** – It is anticipated that this work can be completed in the same calendar year as funding. A Professional Landscape Architect will be retained to provide plans and specifications for bidding; the project will be publically bid and awarded to a qualified, experienced contractor for construction. The actual construction is estimated to take between 30 and 60 calendar days.
6. **Credentials** – The Town of Belmont, through its DPW, has successfully managed the completion of resurfacing the Winn Brook, Pequossette and Grove Street tennis courts and recent resurfacing of the Town Field basketball court. Recently, the DPW successfully managed the replacement of the High School synthetic turf field and resurfacing of the running track at Harris Field. In addition, the DPW annually manages a \$1.4M water main replacement program and an annual sidewalk repair and replacement program.
7. **Success Factors** – The success of this project will be measured by the time, on budget completion of this project built to specifications.

8. Budget – Construction @ \$ 66,000 per court = \$264,000
10% Construction Contingency = \$ 26,000
Design & Specifications = \$ 35,000
Total = \$325,000

9. Other Funding – No other funding sources are available.
10. Maintenance – The Town is committed to provide long-term maintenance for these facilities. This is a necessity to preserve this asset and keep them useful and safe.
11. Impact on Town Budget – The secondary effects on the Town budget are minimal and will be included in our annual maintenance program for all recreational assets. There are no other capital projects that rely on the completion of this requested project.

Additional Information

1. Control of Site – The Town owns and has control of this site.
2. Deed Restrictions – No deed restrictions are required for this project.
3. Acquisitions – Not applicable.
4. Feasibility – There are no barriers for moving forward with project.
5. Hazardous Materials – There are no known hazardous materials at this site.
6. Permitting – No permits are required as this is an existing tennis court at this site and it is zoned for municipal use.
7. Environmental Concerns – There are no environmental concerns for this project.
8. Professional Standards – The proposed budget includes funds for a Professional Landscape Architect to design and specify this project. A qualified, experienced contractor, using the appropriate state bid laws, will be awarded the construction contract for the lowest qualified bid. In addition, the Town has professional resources and expertise within its DPW and Community Development Departments to oversee and address any concerns
9. Further Attachments – Attached is an Assessors map showing the location of the proposed project.



2011 Town Meeting Ringers

1 Typically, the chair of the Capital
2 Budget Committee would be here giving this motion
3 and also providing all of the answers because of
4 her rich understanding of the Capital Budget
5 Committee going back for a couple of decades.
6 However, Pat Brusch has a new grandson, and she is
7 in Virginia with her son and daughter-in-law and
8 her new grandson. He was a bit early. He is still
9 in the hospital, so she's there taking care of him
10 and cannot be here this evening. Therefore, I am
11 going to step in and read this motion, and I'm
12 going to look at this for assistance from Jenny Fallon
13 from the Capital Budget Committee, Becky Vose and
14 others to try to answer the question. This will be
15 sort of an amateurish job on this article, but we
16 will do our best stand-in for Pat.

ARTICLE 9

MOVED: That the sum of \$2,060,000 be, and hereby
is, appropriated to purchase Public Safety Equipment,
site improvements, public works Equipment and
furnishings Equipment for Town facilities, and
consulting services, to construct public ways, and

for building and Facility and Public works
Construction; and for Major Maintenance and
Alterations (including design work) as follows:

MR. JONES: And Mr. Moderator, do I
read these items there on the list?

MODERATOR WIDMER: Does he need to?

MR. Giorgio, does he need to read the full list?

He tells me no.

MR. JONES: The slide is up there, so
we can begin with questions.

MS. RUVOLO: Donna Ruvalo, Town Meeting
Member of Precinct 7.

If you look very closely and read
through these, when you get to site improvements,
it says, tennis courses, Remove Grove Street, repair
Winn Brook. And I have to take a real deep breath
on this one and say removing the tennis courts at
the Grove Street playground, it just is
incomprehensible to me. I have called the Rec.-
Department for several years. I have called the
Rec. Commission for several years, because the nets
have not been put up at that tennis court -- at
those tennis courts, and I have been told it's
because it's not safe, and there's not the funds to

1 repair the cracks. And I have time after time said
2 that I have spoken to many people in that community.
3 There's a lot of folks with young families in
4 Burbank, Chenery, Wellington, in that neighborhood,
5 a lot of folks that come and use those courts.
6 when the nets were up at those courts, those courts
7 were in use all the time by local families, all the
8 time.

9 And I look around this room right now
10 and I see easily three dozen people, who have
11 coached my children or their own children on sports
12 teams in this Town. And I think that we have a
13 commitment because those courts aren't just for
14 kids. They're for everybody. And we have a
15 commitment to the health of our residents. And
16 removing those courts is just wrong. We're
17 facing -- we're facing a national childhood obesity
18 situation. All of these things should contribute
19 to not removing tennis courts, because it's more
20 convenient to remove them instead of patch them.
21 And I absolutely would hope that there is some type
22 of -- was there any questioning done to the
23 community about who uses those courts? Just one
24 day, the nets didn't go up, and then that was it.

96
97
1 And now it's on the list for those courts to be
2 removed. This is not the way to address a capital
3 expense at all, and I would hope that all the Town
4 Meeting Members in this room, who have children or
5 who have picked up a tennis racquet, will understand
6 that, you know, these parks used to be fully
7 staffed with -- with Rec. Department people over
8 the summer. It's not what I'm asking. I'm not
9 even asking that it's a -- it's an expensive base
10 or some, you know, Longwood quality tennis court.
11 A nice asphalt court. Patch the cracks. Put up
12 the net. Do not take down the tennis courts.
13 Thank you.
14 (Applause.)
15 MODERATOR WEDMER: If you -- if you'll
16 bear with me. I just consulted with Town Counsel,
17 and I do want -- we'll come right back at Mr. Jones
18 to read a portion of the motion, because -- for the
19 record, because it relates to the Prop. 2 1/2
20 override, the additional 600,000 for capital if the
21 override is passed.
22 So Mr. Jones.
23 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. Yes, I will do
24 that. The -- the bottom of the top of page 2 after

1 the end of the total article and the amount of the
2 override budget. The next two paragraphs say:
3
4 ARTICLE 9 (continued)
5 Said sums to be expend under the direction of the
6 Board of Selectmen, Library Trustees, and the
7 School Committee as appropriate, and that said sums
8 be raised as follows: \$1,960,000 by General Tax,
9 and by transfer of \$100,000 from the Capital
10 Endowment Fund.
11
12 MR. JONES: Here is the important
13 paragraph:
14
15 Provided further, contingent upon voter approval of
16 a Proposition 2 1/2 override ballot question at a
17 subsequent special election to be held and certified
18 prior to June 30, 2010, that an additional \$600,000
19 be appropriated to construct public ways, and for
20 Building and Facility and Public Works Construction
21 as follows:
22
23 MR. JONES: And what is listed there is
24 a list of \$600,000 of increases in capital funds

98
99 expenditures, if an override passes.
1 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Jones.
2
3 MR. JONES: Yes.
4 MODERATOR WIDMER: Can you also read
5 the last two paragraphs that start, "for a total
6 appropriation" --
7 MR. JONES:
8
9 ARTICLE 9 (continued)
10 for a total appropriation of \$2,660,000, said
11 additional sum to be expended under the direction
12 of the Board of Selectmen, and the School Committee
13 as appropriate, and that said additional sum be
14 hereby raised by General Tax;
15 and that the Town Accountant be and hereby is
16 authorized to make the transfers on the books of
17 the Town.
18
19 MODERATOR WIDMER: All right. Thank
20 you. Thank you for your indulgence.
21
22 MR. JONES: You're welcome.
23
24 MODERATOR WIDMER: Back to the tennis

100

courts.

2 was there --

3 MS. FALLON: Jenny Fallon, Town Meeting
4 Member of Precinct 1, and member of the Capital
5 Budget Committee.

6 I would just like to apprise Town Meeting
7 of the process that -- or the discussion that has
8 occurred at the Capital Budget Committee regarding
9 the tennis courts. This is a very difficult question,
10 and we have been struggling with it for some time.
11 I think it has been at least four years, right,
12 that we have been discussing this?

13 The use of the tennis courts has
14 dropped, in fact, over time. Ten or 15 years
15 ago --

16 TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: No.

17 MODERATOR WIDMER: Let her continue,
18 please.

19 MS. FALLON: -- they were used
20 extensively, and there were waiting lines; and the
21 information we have been given is that they do not
22 have as much use now as they once did. And so
23 there were questions about whether or not we should
24 spend money to fix them, because the nets were not

1 paid for, because the tennis courts were deemed to
2 be unsafe.

3 So the request was made to the Capital
4 Budget Committee about whether or not we could find
5 the money to fix the tennis courts, and we referred
6 this back to the Town Administrator and the Recreation
7 Department to ask them, please, to devise a plan
8 about what was the appropriate level of number of
9 courts that the Town should have to meet the needs
10 of the tennis-playing population in Town, and how
11 much would it cost to achieve the appropriate plan
12 to restore the courts.

13 That took some years to accomplish, and
14 this year, Mr. Castanino, who brought this request
15 to us, let us know that a meeting had been held and
16 that this discussion had taken place, and that the
17 feeling is that if we can restore the courts at
18 Pequosette where there are four, the courts at Winn
19 Brook where there are four, and have eight available
20 at the high school, and two available at the
21 Chenery Middle School, that that is an appropriate
22 level of service for tennis in the Town under the
23 Recreation Department, and that we should, in fact,
24 spend the money to restore those and remove the

1 court now at Grove Street.
2 So that's the plan that has been given
3 to the Capital Budget Committee, and we approved
4 that, because we thought there had been significant
5 discussion, and that was a reasonable decision.
6 The money that is listed here to restore
7 the courts this year is only to patch them. In
8 order to fully restore and rebuild the courts so
9 that they will last -- this -- this will be a patch
10 that will last for three to five years, as I
11 understand it.
12 In order to fully rebuild them, it
13 would cost about \$50,000 per court or \$200,000 for
14 each four-court lot of tennis courts.
15 Whether or not the Town can afford to
16 do that is still a question, and it's something
17 that the Town Meeting and the other committees will
18 have to think about. That's what we'll have to
19 think about. But that's where the plan stands at
20 the moment.

21 MODERATOR WIDMER: we need -- Ms.
22 Ruvolo, we need to hear from others who haven't
23 spoken.

24 MS. RUVOLO: I just have -- I -- this

103
1 is a follow-up question. So, quickly.
2 Donna Ruvolo, Town Meeting Member,
3 Precinct 7.
4 So if we vote on this tonight, is this
5 cast in stone? These are -- these are capital
6 expenses that have been -- I mean, if this
7 gets -- if this -- if that one -- one little segment
8 of an otherwise approvable budget.
9 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is the question --
10 MS. RUVOLO: My question is if
11 this -- if this budget gets approved, it definitely
12 means that the -- the tennis courts are going to be
13 removed, because this is the budget that has been
14 approved?
15 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Fallon.
16 MS. FALCON: This is the recommendation
17 of the Capital Budget Committee to Town Meeting.
18 If this budget is approved by Town Meeting that
19 means the money is in the budget to accomplish
20 these things. If the Town were to make a change in
21 policy and want to change that then a future Town
22 Meeting presumably could change the budget.
23 MS. RUVOLO: Okay. I just -- I just
24 will follow-up --

104

1 MODERATOR WIDMER: I do want others.
2 Ms. Ruvolo, we have a rule on it.

3 MS. RUVOLLO: Okay.

4 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Scali.

5 MS. SCALI: Mr. Moderator, I would like
6 to amend that line item to remove the sum of
7 \$21,000 so that --

8 Moved: That we remove the sum of
9 \$21,000 on the Grove Street court, the Grove Street
10 tennis courts and seal cracks.

11 It says \$21,000: correct?

12 MODERATOR WIDMER: \$24,000.

13 MS. SCALI: 24,100.

14 MODERATOR WIDMER: Do you have that
15 written?

16 MS. SCALI: Yes.

17 MODERATOR WIDMER: Could you read it
18 again, please.

19 MS. SCALI:

20 MOVED: That we remove the sum of 21,000 -- \$24,100
21 for the removal of the tennis court.

22 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is that --
23 Yeah, I'm at -- I -- and I would love
24 to see the Winn Brook courts repaired, all the

105

1 MS. SCALI: Remove the Grove Street
2 tennis court line item.

3 MODERATOR WIDMER: Delete it from
4 the --

5 MS. SCALI: From the -- yes.

6 MR. JONES: That would also eliminate
7 the resurfacing of the Winn Brook court.

8 MS. SCALI: You're saying -- I know I
9 am -- I'm -- now I'm a little confused about

10 \$24,100 to remove the Grove Street and to resurface.

11 If you're just patching Winn Brook, don't even
12 bother. If we can't patch --

13 MODERATOR WIDMER: Can I ask that since
14 the motion is confusing --

15 MS. SCALI: It is.

16 MODERATOR WIDMER: -- can we -- can you
17 make a regroup. we'll hear other discussion and
18 come back.

19 MS. SCALI: Okay.

20 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Roberts.

21 MR. ROBERTS: Paul Roberts, Town Meeting
22 Member of Precinct 8.

23 Yeah, I'm at -- I -- and I would love
24 to see the Winn Brook courts repaired, all the

106
1 courts repaired. This may be since we are better
2 off not spending money to tear it down and remove
3 the tennis courts that I think there's a lot of
4 community support to preserve. And, obviously, you
5 know, I have -- you have to look at the stance that
6 the Rec. Department is saying, well, the use is way
7 down and there haven't been nets up.
8 TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: Mike.
9 MODERATOR WIDMER: Okay. You need to
10 speak into the microphone, please.
11 MR. ROBERTS: I'm sorry. I don't even
12 know how you can -- how you can sort of justify
13 that -- the data when there are no nets up. So how
14 do we really know what the use is?
15 This might be an opportunity though if
16 we're looking at \$200,000 per court, and there are
17 three or four per Town or, you know, private
18 fund-raising as an -- as an additional funding
19 option to get this done. It's a very focused
20 project. I think a lot of people in Town would
21 like to see it done, and it might be an opportunity.
22 (Applause.)
23 MODERATOR WIDMER: I recognize Mr. Green
24 and then come back to you, Ms. Scalzi.

107
1 MR. Green.
2 MR. GREEN: William Green, Town Meeting
3 Member of Precinct 7.
4 And I should say that I live just two
5 blocks away from the tennis courts, and I have some
6 of the most memorable memories of my children
7 playing tennis on those tennis courts.
8 These tennis courts have been in
9 terrible shape for a long time. The place is ideal
10 for playing with children. There's never a line of
11 adults waiting to use them.
12 (Laughter.)
13 MR. GREEN: What I would advise,
14 regardless of the vote on the amendment, I would
15 strongly advise the Selectmen and Town Administrator
16 not to move with the demolition of those courts and
17 just hold that money. You don't have to just spend
18 money immediately, as you see. And then I was
19 particularly thinking that with the electric
20 building site not resolved, and one of the sites is
21 adjacent to the high school tennis courts, there's
22 definitely a possibility that there might be some
23 interest in resurrecting those tennis courts, and
24 it seems like it would be a waste of money to

1 demolish them after we rebuild them.

2 MR. JONES: Mr. Moderator.

3 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Jones.

4 MR. JONES: I think that Mrs. Scali's
5 amendment is quite simple. It's to strike out that
6 one line item for \$24,100.

7 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. --

8 MS. SCALI: Yeah, I would like to move
9 that --

10 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Scali.

11 MS. SCALI:

12 MOVED: That we remove \$24,100 from the Grove
13 Street tennis courts and seal cracks and resurface
14 Winn Brook Park.

15 May I just make a statement about that?

16 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is there a second?

17 TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: Second.

18 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes, Ms. Scali.

19 MS. SCALI: If you're just going to
20 seal the courts, you can't really play on
21 sealed -- courts that have been cracked and sealed.
22 They have to be redone. So my understanding is if
23 away as a line item, and let's see what we can do
24 about it.

108
109

1 you're just going to seal them, it isn't going to
2 work at Winn Brook anyway. Please give us time to
3 try to find a way to raise some money or to do
4 something. This is a perfect example of not having
5 the neighborhood be notified as to what's going on,
6 and I would like to see in Mr. Colton's committee
7 of the future that in some way anything on any
8 playground, whatever it is, basketball, soccer,
9 anything, if it's changed, we, the townspeople,
10 should know about it so we have a say in what is
11 happening.

12 I happened to have been involved in
13 tennis for over 30 years. We had a wonderful
14 tennis association. We had hundreds of people
15 playing. The courts were ideal. Back in the '70s,
16 there was a program by the Recreation Department.
17 Every year they repaired and resurfaced the tennis
18 courts all over town. They also did a project with
19 the playground equipment, and it was wonderful.
20 And over the years they have cracked because of the
21 severe weather and so forth. They have to be kept
22 up. So, please, do not do this. Please take it
23 away as a line item, and let's see what we can do
24 about it.

1 MODERATOR WIDMER: we'll now have --
2 (Applause.)

3 MODERATOR WIDMER: we'll now have
4 discussion on Ms. Scali's amendment only.
5 would you -- Ms. Scali, could you give
6 a copy of that to the Town Clerk.

7 MS. SCALI: I'm sorry.

8 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Younger, did
9 you -- were you responding on this?

10 MR. YOUNGER: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.
11 I just want to inform you for this that
12 we did have an attempt at fund-raising for the Winn
13 Brook courts by a resident down there who had
14 fund-raising experience. Mr. Castanino and I met
15 with her a number of times, and she was not able to
16 accomplish fund-raising for the project. So there
17 had been attempts to fund-raise for the Winn Brook
18 court.

19 MS. SCALI: I never said there wasn't.

20 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Scali, we need
21 to hear from others.

22 MS. SCALI: Oh, I'm sorry.

23 MODERATOR WIDMER: That's all right.
24 Discussion of Ms. Scali's amendment.

111
1 Yes, do you want to discuss the
2 amendment?
3 TOWN MEETING MEMBER: I didn't want to
4 address the amendment. I had another question.
5 MODERATOR WIDMER: Okay. Well,
6 we're -- discussion now will focus on that
7 amendment only.
8 MS. POLCARI: Lynne Polcari,
9 Precinct 8 -- ah, 5.
10 It's a very simple amendment. It just
11 tables the discussion for the time being. You can
12 tell by the applause that we had in this room that
13 there is a lot of opposition to removing these
14 tennis courts. We're not talking about funding
15 schools or things that have to go forward one way
16 or another. Let's just take it out of the budget.
17 Let ideas percolate on how to solve this problem.
18 I have been doing fund-raising in this Town for a
19 long time. I think Paul is right. With the right
20 sort of focus on it and widespread interest maybe
21 we can do something around that, but we won't know
22 if we go ahead and vote it out tonight. So I urge
23 you to support this amendment.
24 (Applause.)

1 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is there other
2 discussion of this amendment?
3 MS. PARMETT: Yeah. Hi. It's Karen
4 Parmett, Precinct 3.
5 My only thought is that it's awfully
6 hard to get money back in once you take it out.
7 And bringing my kids to Grove Street a lot, I see
8 lots of other uses of that flat surface that would
9 be a tennis court that doesn't have any nets.
10 Little kids learning to ride their bikes and things
11 like that. So I wonder when we consider this
12 amendment whether we might want to just advise the
13 Town not to remove Grove Street. I don't imagine
14 it's a significant amount, that \$24,000, because
15 they're just -- they're not really pulling up
16 asphalt.

17 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Allen.
18 MR. ALLEN: Mr. Moderator, Monte Allen
19 from Precinct 8.
20 I would be interested in knowing how
21 much of the \$24,000 would be required to remove the
22 Grove Street courts, and how much of it would be
23 allocated to repairing the Winn Brook?
24 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Castanino.

112
1 MR. CASTANINO: Peter Castanino,
2 Director of Public Works.
3 we budgeted \$12,000 to remove Grove
4 Street using the Public Works' staff. The money
5 really is to -- once you take down all the fencing
6 and the asphalt, you have to fill the hole -- hole
7 with loam. Surprisingly, the loam is estimated at
8 \$10,000 and put \$2,000 in to seed it, plus the
9 labor, and the work would be done, would be, if it
10 were approved, done by the Public Works Department.
11 Obviously, the cost is already there incorporated
12 in the budget. It's labor anyway. That balance is
13 to seal the four courts at Winn Brook.
14 MODERATOR WIDMER: Was the answer
15 12,000 of the 24,17
16 MR. CASTANINO: Yes. Yes.
17 MR. ALLEN: May I have a follow-up?
18 MODERATOR WIDMER: Sure, Mr. Allen.
19 MR. ALLEN: So my understanding is that
20 the \$24,000 -- of the 24,100, 12,000 would be
21 required to remove the courts at Grove Street?
22 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes.
23 MR. ALLEN: And 12,000 would be applied
24 to repairing the courts at Winn Brook. And it

1 seems to me that maybe 12,000 of the 24,000 could
2 be used to repair the Grove Street courts.
3 (Applause.)

4 MR. ALLEN: And we would be -- and we
5 would want to spend the 24,100, and then we would
6 have eight courts.

7 MODERATOR WIDMER: Thank you.
8 (Applause.)

9 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White.

10 MR. WHITE: Joe White, Precinct 4.
11 We discussed this the other night at
12 the budget hearing, and it was 11,000 -- but
13 that -- 11, 12. And there was a comment that was
14 repeated here tonight that our labor costs are not
15 included in taking this down.

16 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Castanino.

17 MR. CASTANINO: Yes. Peter Castanino,
18 Director of Public Works.

19 MR. WHITE: Go ahead.
20 (Laughter.)

21 MR. CASTANINO: Thank you. what I said
22 was that this budget item for the removal of the
23 \$12,000 was for loam and for seeding of that space.
24 What I said was that the budget plan were to use

114
1 one of the Public Works staff to remove all the
2 material. So what I said is that that labor
3 theoretically, in fact, is in the line items of the
4 public work budget -- Public Works' budget. It's
5 not included in here as a labor cost though, MR.
6 White.

7 MODERATOR WIDMER: But this is a gap in
8 the budget, so therefore, it's --
9 MR. WHITE: Right. I understand that.
10 But on -- on everything, if I worked at the -- if I
11 ran the cemetery and sent the cemetery truck to the
12 highway. I would get a compensating bill, a
13 fictitious bill, if you will, of what it costs in
14 labor to fix my truck, and that will come out of my
15 budget.

16 MR. CASTANINO: I didn't say there was
17 no -- no cost on the labor. I just said we're --
18 MR. WHITE: Okay. Well, I'm
19 getting -- I'm getting to a point.
20 MODERATOR WIDMER: Can you speak to the
21 amendment, Mr. White.
22 MR. WHITE: Yes. And the money that's
23 used to repair the -- the Winn Brook, is that being
24 done by us also or is it outside?

116
1 MR. CASTANINO: No, sir, outside.
2 MR. WHITE: Okay. So, therefore, I see

3 a difference in labor. In other words, we're
4 spending \$11,000 minus labor to take -- to do one
5 thing, and then we're paying labor and material to
6 patch something up?

7 MR. CASTANINO: Correct.

8 MR. WHITE: Thank you --

9 MR. CASTANINO: You're welcome.

10 MR. WHITE: -- for your understanding.

11 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Fallon.

12 MS. FALLON: Mr. Moderator, I just want
13 to make a clarifying statement I just confirmed
14 with Mr. Castanino. I just want to follow up on
15 something that someone had said. In fact, the
16 Grove Street courts are not repairable at this
17 point. They have gone beyond the point where they
18 can actually be patched. So the \$12,000 would not
19 be able to be used to open the Grove Street courts.
20 I also want to make clear that if Ms.
21 Scali's motion passes, the tennis court situation
22 will remain exactly as it is now. The Grove Street
23 courts will be closed. Only two courts will be
24 open at Wina Brook, and the rest of the courts will

117
1 stay the same for this year.
2 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes, sir.
3 MR. CASALE: Alex Casale, Town Meeting
4 Member of Precinct 7.
5 I'm just trying to reconcile some of
6 the thoughts in the room, and I think given that
7 from what I understand it would cost \$12,000 to
8 remove the courts at Grove Street; is that -- is
9 that correct what I heard?
10 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes.
11 MR. CASALE: And that there seems to be
12 little to no support for that? Perhaps we propose
13 a different amendment that is simply to remove the
14 first six words of that --
15 MODERATOR WIDMER: No, we can't. It's
16 out of order. We need to deal with this amendment
17 first. If it's defeated, then you can come back
18 and do that.
19 MR. CASALE: Okay.
20 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yeah. Mr. White,
21 you've spoken already.
22 Mr. Mercier.
23 MR. MERCIER: Donald Mercier, Precinct 8.
24 I'm interested in this motion, Mr.

118
1 Moderator, but to get an article like this, there's
2 no reason -- these are all line item -- items.
3 There is no reason why we -- we shouldn't have some
4 method of voting on these individually.
5 MODERATOR WIDMER: That's beyond the
6 scope of this. We -- you need to speak to the
7 motion.
8 MR. MERCIER: I understand that, but --
9 MODERATOR WIDMER: Please.
10 MR. MERCIER: -- I'm also speaking on
11 the format of the motion.
12 MODERATOR WIDMER: No. I'm asking you.
13 No, that's not relevant.
14 MR. MERCIER: I'll be back.
15 (Laughter.)
16 MODERATOR WIDMER: I'll count on it.
17 (Applause.)
18 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes, ma'am.
19 Mr. White, you've spoken.
20 MR. WHITE: Well, I'll ask --
21 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White, you've
22 spoken.
23 MR. WHITE: I can't speak on the
24 amendment a second time?

119
1 MODERATOR WIDMER: No. You cannot.
2 MR. WHITE: Thank you.
3 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes, ma'am.
4 MS. VALIANT: What I would like to do
5 is I would like to --
6 MODERATOR WIDMER: Identify yourself.
7 MS. VALIANT: I'm sorry. Gayle Valiant,
8 Precinct 2.
9 What I'd like to do is I'd like to --
10 MODERATOR WIDMER: Could you speak a
11 little louder.
12 MS. VALIANT: I would like to amend the
13 amendment, and what I would like to do is propose
14 that we allocate \$12,000 to repair Winn Brook
15 courts and remove Grove Street tennis courts from
16 that line item and present line item.
17 (Applause.)
18 MODERATOR WIDMER: I'll check with the
19 Town Counsel on this. You need to deal with one
20 amendment at a time. So we need to dispense with
21 this amendment.
22 MR. WHITE: Mr. Moderator, if I may.
23 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White, no, you
24 may not.

1 MR. WHITE: I was going to ask you --
2 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White. No, you
3 may not, Mr. White.
4 MR. WHITE: When you have counsel --
5 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White.
6 MR. WHITE: When you ask him a question
7 of the counsel, I would prefer he come to the
8 microphone so we can all participate in this
9 meeting.
10 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. White. Mr.
11 white, please sit down.
12 (Applause.)
13 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Jones.
14 MR. JONES: Mr. Moderator, Ralph Jones,
15 Chairman of the Board of Selectmen and also a Town
16 Meeting Member of Precinct 2.
17 The Capital Budget Committee per se
18 doesn't have a dog in this fight. We take
19 recommendations from other departments, and we then
20 bring them, if they're high priority, to the Town
21 Meeting floor.
22 If I understand Mrs. Scali's amendment,
23 it's very simple, and it's very forward. She
24 believes the tennis courts in this Town should be

120
121
1 restored, which will require larger capital
2 investment and make a larger, you know, make a
3 larger plan for this over a longer period of time.
4 And I think her amendment before was very simple
5 and straightforward. And if her message to the
6 Capital Budget Committee about listening to
7 recommendations from the Recreation Commission from
8 now on there's a preference for town courts, and we
9 should fund them appropriately.
10 (Applause.)
11 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is there other
12 discussion on the amendment?
13 MS. VALIANT: Sorry. Gayle Valiant --
14 MODERATOR WIDMER: Yes.
15 MS. VALIANT: -- Precinct 2, again.
16 If I can just talk to my amended
17 amendment.
18 MODERATOR WIDMER: No, because -- the
19 Town Counsel has informed me it's -- we're going to
20 deal with this amendment that has been made by
21 Ms. Scali first. And then we can amend that if
22 it's successful or not successful.
23 MS. PAGE: --
24 MS. PAGE: Well, I'm sort of a

1 dispassionate listener to this, because I'm not a
2 tennis player, but it does seem to me as well if
3 the amendment were to pass and the \$24,100 were
4 removed from the budget, I'm not quite sure what
5 happened to it. Maybe it would revert to free
6 cash.
7 (Laughter.)
8 MS. PAGE: And it would not be
9 spent -- it could not be spent on those two tennis
10 courts in the course of this year. It seems to me
11 as though our meeting might want to consider defeating
12 this amendment and giving a clear instruction to
13 Mr. Castanino and his colleagues and to the Capital
14 Budget Committee that they might want to reconsider
15 how they're going to invest in the tennis courts
16 knowing that they have \$24,100 with which then to
17 begin the process.
18 (Applause.)
19 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. McLaughlin.
20 MR. MC LAUGHLIN: Mr. Moderator, Bob
21 McLaughlin, precinct 2.
22 And I can see we're in an awful
23 procedural mess here. What I think I would like to
24 see happen is that we keep the \$12,000 to fix the

1 Winn Brook tennis court and leave the Grove Street
2 court alone until this further study on it.
3 Now, with Maryann's motion pending, if
4 we vote for that, it's over. We're not going to
5 get the chance to do that.
6 MODERATOR WIDMER: No.
7 MR. MC LAUGHLIN: So that I think and I
8 asked this question, if we want to get to a second
9 motion, which would leave \$12,000 to fix Winn Brook
10 and do away with Grove Street, just leave them as
11 is status quo then we have to vote against
12 Maryann's motion.
13 (Applause.)
14 MODERATOR WIDMER: Procedurally, you
15 could do it -- procedurally you could do it either
16 way. You could support the amendment and then
17 there would be a further --
18 MR. MC LAUGHLIN: A subsequent motion.
19 MODERATOR WIDMER: Repeat the amendment
20 and add a subsequent -- procedurally, we can handle
21 it either way.
22 MR. MC LAUGHLIN: Thank you.
23 MODERATOR WIDMER: Further discussion
24 on Ms. Scalisi's amendment?

1 MS. LAMBERT: Anne-Marie Lambert,
2 Precinct 8.

3 The amendment appears to be, at least
4 in part, motivated by an attempt to solicit private
5 funds, and eventually address the concerns about
6 the tennis courts. And my question is about we
7 always have almost no information about what services
8 in the school and Town budget are currently funded
9 privately. For this particular item, does private
10 funding of tennis courts have a liability
11 implication on the Town if somebody else funds the
12 repair of tennis courts, and they do it in a faulty
13 manner? Does that create a liability for the Town?
14 And how does that work? Is there someone who can
15 address that issue?

16 MODERATOR WIDMER: I'll ask Mr. Younger
17 to reply to that.

18 MR. YOUNGER: Thank you. That's just a
19 shift of funds. Obviously, the --
20 MODERATOR WIDMER: Tom, please identify
21 yourself.

22 MR. YOUNGER: Oh, I'm sorry. Tom
23 Younger, Town Administrator.
24 That is just a shifting of funds into

125
1 the Town. They would still have to go out for, you
2 know, need to go out for bid or for any other
3 overtime --

4 MS. LAMBERT: The Town would be the
5 entity that is overseeing the work --

6 MR. YOUNGER: Yes, that's correct.
7 MS. LAMBERT: -- with the private
8 funds, which would come to the budget?

9 And where would those get recorded in
10 the budget as an income source for the Town?
11 And how does Town Meeting find out

12 about anything like that that's happening today or
13 that would be happening in this line item?

14 MODERATOR WIDMER: Ms. Hagg.
15 MS. HAGG: Barbara Hagg, Town Accountant.

16 We have a number of gift accounts that
17 come in under a special revenue fund, and the
18 revenue comes in, and it's spent directly from the
19 gift account. We also have revolving accounts,
20 grants, trust funds. They are all treated the same
21 way.

22 MS. LAMBERT: And are those available
23 to Town Meeting, the single sources of those funds?
24 MS. HAGG: Those are actually all in

126
1 the Town Meeting report for every single year. The
2 Town Meeting reports are on the website. So we
3 have the -- every single trust fund, every single
4 gift, they are all listed. The beginning balance,
5 the revenue that came in, the expenses and the
6 ending balance.

7 MODERATOR WIDMER: We're moving a
8 little beyond the amendment here.

9 MS. LAMBERT: Thank you.

10 MODERATOR WIDMER: Thank you.
11 Any further discussion?

12 MS. SCALI, I'm going to recognize
13 anybody else on your amendment before recognizing
14 you again.

15 All right. Ms. Scali.

16 MS. SCALI: I appreciate the Town
17 Meeting being sympathetic to this confusing issue,
18 and I will be happy to do anything that will solve
19 the problem. So I think I would like to rescind my
20 motion and let someone else make another motion.
21 But I don't want to see Grove Street go away. I
22 mean, I don't -- it sounds like the Precinct 7
23 people and the people who live near Grove Street
24 want it to stay there for awhile so they can try to

127
1 raise some money and do something. So whatever is
2 best for the Town Meeting, I would like to see it
3 done.

4 MODERATOR WIDMER: Let me recognize
5 MR. -- Mr. Jones.

6 MR. JONES: Ralph Jones, Precinct 2,
7 and also Chair of the Board of Selectmen.
8 And I've just discussed this matter
9 with Peter Castanino, Director of Public Works.
10 what I'm going to propose is to eliminate the
11 language currently in that line item, \$24,100, and
12 replace it with repair of the Winn Brook Courts and
13 the PQ courts, which are the next ones up for
14 repair. So that we would be doing two years on
15 these repairs. I know it isn't ideal, but that's a
16 possibility.

17 MS. SCALI: But you're not going to
18 take away the Winn Brook?

19 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Jones --

20 MR. JONES: We don't do anything with
21 Winn Brook.

22 MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Jones, for my
23 clarity and Town Meeting, you're saying that if
24 this motion were approved, Ms. Scali's --

128

MR. JONES: we could do that.

MODERATOR WIDMER: You would then come back with a substitute amendment or not?

MR. JONES: Yes. She had proposed to withdraw her own.

MODERATOR WIDMER: No, I would rather --

MR. JONES: Then I think we should just pass Mrs. Scalisi's motion and move on to a new appropriation of those funds for a different purpose, leaving Grove Street intact.

MODERATOR WIDMER: I think that's a cleaner way to do it.

TOWN MEETING MEMBER: Second.

MODERATOR WIDMER: Any further discussion?

Did you understand Mr. Jones' remarks?

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: No.

MODERATOR WIDMER: All right. Mr. Jones -- I didn't think so. Could you clarify your own --

(Laughter.)

MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

(Laughter.)

129

MR. JONES: To clarify, I am recommending that Mrs. Scalisi's motion be axed. That would eliminate the language, and it's \$24,100.

Then I propose a second motion to appropriate the amount of \$24,100 for repair of tennis courts, not touching the Grove Street area.

Leaving it intact, just repairing the tennis

courts; and according to Mr. Castanino, that would mean repairing the Winn Brook and the PQ tennis courts, which are on schedule for next year.

(Applause.)

MODERATOR WIDMER: Let me clarify. We wouldn't in the -- when we get to voting on Ms. Scalisi's amendment, we will only vote on the deletion. Then we would hear an amendment from Mr. Jones on the restoration as he described.

Any further discussion?

MR. REARDON. MR. REARDON.

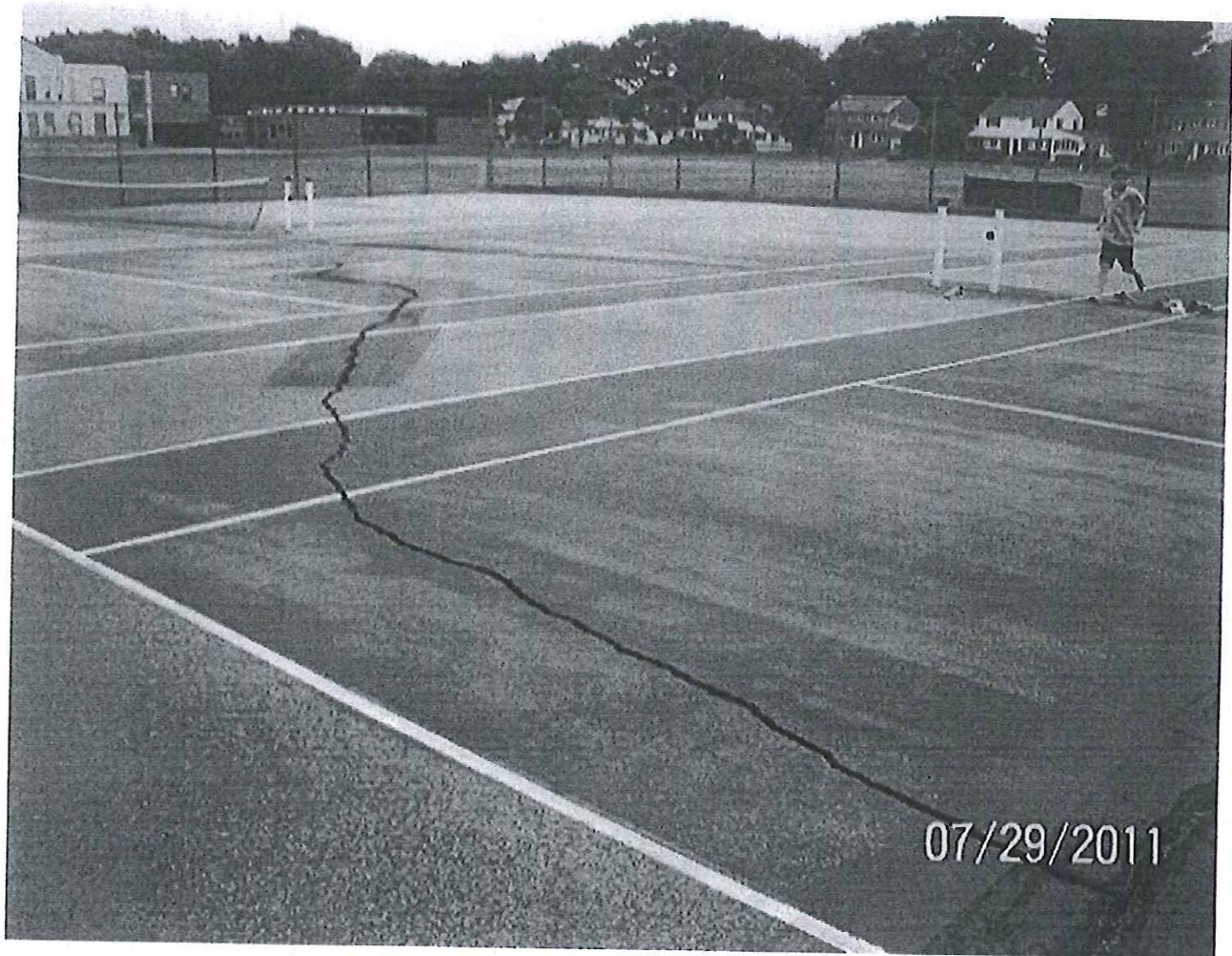
I think it would be a lot easier if we simply made the motion to the amendment and then simply amended this new amendment that has changed the language to repair tennis courts, end of story.

MODERATOR WIDMER: Mr. Reardon -- okay.

1 Thank you. 130
2 (Laughter.)
3 MODERATOR WIDMER: Any other discussion?
4 All right. Are we ready for a vote?
5 TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: Yes.
6 MODERATOR WIDMER: Amen. All those in
7 favor of Ms. Scallie's motion to delete \$24,100 from
8 the capital budget under Article 9, the line item
9 on Grove Street tennis courts.
10 All those in favor, please say aye.
11 Those opposed, no.
12 The ayes have it.
13 Now, we open up discussion.
14 MR. JONES on Article 9.
15 MR. JONES: Article 9 under site
16 improvements. I propose that in the line that used
17 to say, remove Grove Street tennis courts, the
18 amount remains the same, 24,100, but that language
19 be replaced with repair Winn Brook and PQ tennis
20 courts.
21 TOWN MEETING MEMBER: Second.
22 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is there a second?
23 TOWN MEETING MEMBERS: Seconded.
24 MODERATOR WIDMER: Is there further



07/29/2011



07/29/2011



07/29/2011



